

Longacre's Ledger

The Journal of the Flying Eagle and Indian Cent Collector's Society

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The Flying Eagle and Indian Cent Collectors Society

Our mission is to gather and disseminate information related to
James B. Longacre (1794-1869), with emphasis on his work as
Chief Engraver of the Mint (1844 -1869) with a primary focus on his
Flying Eagle and Indian Cent coinage.
Founded 1991

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The following individuals have indicated their willingness to help promote the club and it's activities in their state.

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please forward your E-Mail address to The Editor immediately.

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Please help the editor in updating any errors or changes. If you would like to become a state representative (there can be more than one per state) please contact the editor.

On the cover...

Die pair 2 of the rare 1864 With L in Proof. A total of 20 examples from 3 die pairs were struck. This die pair (PR2) is die linked (same reverse die) to the proof issues of 1868 - 1871. 9 examples are known. This die pair is also known to have struck examples in aluminum. Diagnostic for this die is the die scratch on the neck, under the ear.

Image by Rick Snow

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Submission guidelines

If you have a substantive article you would like to contribute, please follow these guidelines:

- ✓ If you have internet access, you can send text to the editor's E-mail address below. Unformatted text or MS word preferred.
- ✓ You may also send files and images on a 3.5" PC-formatted disk or CD-W disk to the Editors address below.
- ✓ Hard copies of the article and pictures may also be submitted.
- ✓ Images of materials can be made by the editor for use in the Journal. Please include the necessary return postage with the submission.
- ✓ Please feel free to contact the editor if you have any questions.

Submission deadlines

Please submit all articles, letters, columns, press releases, advertisements no later than the following dates to assure inclusion.

Issue	Deadline	Issue date
#49 2001 Vol. 11.3	August 15, 2001	September 2001
#50 2001 Vol. 11.4	November 15, 2001	December 2001
#51 2002 Vol. 12.1	February 15, 2002 .	March 2002
#52 2002 Vol. 12.2	May 15, 2001	June 2001

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Presidents Letter

Chris Pilliod



This is my sixth letter as president.

Once again several Fly-In members have shown generosity and have made a donation along with their annual renewal. These include:

Ray Brown Chris Murray
Craig Rathkamp Darrell Wolfe

I hope I have not missed anyone.

Summer is often a time when many who call numismatics their main avocations turn to other pastimes. As such the hobby seems to endure a lull. Two great summertime numismatic escapes are the ANA Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs in July and the annual ANA "Money Show" (more commonly referred to as just the ANA) in August. Having been to three Summer Seminars I can attest to the fact they are a real treat for the novice and advanced collector. It is rare to hear anything but glowing words.

The ANA Show will be held in Atlanta, Georgia on August 8th through 12th. The Fly-In Club's ANA meeting will be Friday, August 10th at 1:00 p.m. The topic will be a study of Small Cent mintages during the Indian cent years. We will also present the Best Article Award for articles published in 1999 and 2000. We will also discuss the slate of officer's for the next term of the Club. Finally, I have heard that there has been discovered an 1859 Indian cent struck over an already struck 1857 Half Dime. It is possible it may be at the ANA. Please plan to attend; we would love to see you.

Announcements

PCGS lists 1897 S1 on holder.

PCGS has begun listing the 1897 S1 with the label "1 in Neck". The addition of more and more of the top varieties into the PCGS population list is sure to spur on additional collectors of varieties.

Market Action

Lee Block of Landmark Coin in Boca Raton, FL recently sold the Finest Known 1873 Doubled LIBERTY, S1, graded MS-65RB by PCGS for in excess of \$60,000. This was the "Heathgate" example.

Rick Snow of Eagle Eye Rare Coins reports selling an 1872 graded MS-65RD by PCGS for \$33,000.

The Central States auction by Heritage had a partial roll of 29 coins of the scarce 1886 Type 2 Indian cents. These were put away by a dealer at some point in the 1960's or 1970's. All coins were from die pairs - both new varieties, which are listed in the "Something New" column by Rick Snow in an upcoming issue:

1886 T2 S9 - (LH) 1/1(s) 2nd 8/8(s).

1886 T2 S10 - (C) 1/1 (n). Dash under the chin.

The varieties were of course not noted in the catalog. Most all lots were the S10. Only 7 lots were S9. The coins were indeed from an old accumulation. The coins were very dirty and as such were graded down by PCGS to only MS63RB and MS64 RB & BN. For the most part, they were nicer. These are early die state coins, which added to their desirability. Two bidders were eager to get the entire group. Below are the prices realized:

5698	MS64BN	S9	\$604
5699	MS64BN	S9	\$661
5700	MS63RB	S9	\$1,380
5701	MS63RB	S10	\$633
5702	MS63RB	S9	\$2,530
5703	MS63RB	S9	\$575
5704	MS63RB	S9	\$1,380
5705	MS63RB	S9	\$1,380
5706	MS63RB	S10	\$575
5707	MS63RB	S9	\$2,760
5708	MS64RB	S9	\$1,265
5709	MS64RB	S9	\$2,760
5710	MS64RB	S9	\$978
5711	MS64RB	S9	\$1,150
5712	MS64RB	S10	\$1,265
5713	MS64RB	S10	\$1,035

At this point a short break was taken while a new auctioneer was called to the podium. One of the competing bidders left the room at this time.

5714	MS64RB	S9	\$690
5715	MS64RB	S9	\$690
5716	MS64RB	S10	\$690
5717	MS64RB	S9	\$805
5718	MS64RB	S10	\$690
5719	MS64RB	S9	\$920
5720	MS64RB	S9	\$690
5721	MS64RB	S9	\$690
5722	MS64RB	S9	\$690
5723	MS64RB	S9	\$748
5724	MS64RB	S9	\$690
5725	MS64RB	S10	\$690
5726	MS64RB	S9	\$690

Most of these coins have been broken out and recertified. We'll see if the old tags get redeemed so the population will get adjusted properly.

The Longacre Diary

By Rick Snow LM-1

While going through my filing cabinet I found some interesting notes that I made during my research for my 1992 book, "Flying Eagle and Indian Cents". While at the National Portrait Gallery in Washington D.C. I got transcripts of part of Longacre's diary.

The first entries deal with the manufacturing of the Gold Dollar. Since the LIBERTY on the gold dollar is incuse, the letters were probably impressed into the master die using a special punch.

Monday, April 30, 1849

Got my Liberty punch from Dougherty for the gold dollar.

Thursday, May 3, 1849

Finished my first working die of the face for the gold dollar.

Friday, 4

At work on the hub for the reverse.

Saturday May 5, 1849

William Dougherty left his bill for punches for the engraver \$69.25

At work on hub of the reverse g.d. [Gold Dollar]

Monday

Finished hub for reverse of G.D.

Tuesday, May 8, 1849

The Gold Dollar first coined today. (I made the design and finished the dies since the beginning of March.)

Wednesday May 23, 1849

Settled with Mr. Rice, he returning me \$50. loaned and paying me \$28.80 for one NPC....

Monday July 23, 1849

Saw Mr. Wright medallist in John H.--N.Y., at work on the medal for Gen. Scott.

There are two different people mentioned in the diary named Peter Cross - Peter Y. Cross and Peter F. Cross. The next entries deal with the development of the \$20 gold piece. No mention is made regarding the troubles between Franklin Peale's efforts to thwart Longacre's work. However, the trip to Washington in February was for the purpose clearing any negative comments on his work by Peale.

Monday, November 6, 1849.

Mr. P. Y. Cross arrived from N.Y to assist me in the engraving at the Mint.

Tuesday 6

P. Y. Cross returned to N. York receiving pay for 6 weeks and 2 days.

Sat. Dec 22, 1849

The Double Eagle was first struck as a coin at the Medal Press of the Mint. The work did not come up as well as I wished.

Wed. Jan 9, 1850

Mr. Cross arrived from NY.

Jan. 10, 1850

Mr. Cross began working (on the reduced head of the Double Eagle hub--then nearly completed.

Friday 11th

I finished the hub for the reduced head of the Double Eagle.

Tuesday, Feb. 12, 1850

Went to Washington City

Wed. Feb. 13, 1850

Saw the Secretary of the Treasury--requested me to finish my work and authorized me to make a statement to him in writing.

Tuesday April 16, 1850

Went to New Brunswick, N.J. to meet Mr. Cross.

This is one of the more interesting entries in the diary. I believe this may confirm that Longacre made the die for the Dubosq California Gold coinage.

Wed. April 17, 1850

Gave Mr. Cross the dies (1 pair) with the necessary directions to be made for Dubosq and Co.

Saturday, August 31, 1850

Certified W. Dougherty's bill to mint U.S. for 5 date punches for 1851 \$4 each \$20.

Saturday March 22, 1851

Certified P. F. Cross' bill on the mint for \$30.
Do. W. Dougherty \$7.

Monday, March 24, 1851

Dies for the three-cent piece struck.

Tuesday, April 1, 1851

2 more working dies for the 3-cent piece delivered.

Wednesday, February 23, 1853

Received two notes from the Director of the Mint, one in relation of the new coinage.

Monday, May 16, 1853

Gave J. Eckfeldt the hubs for the new half dollar [small pencil drawing of an eagle with wings spread out.]

Tuesday August 16, 1853

Received my date punches for 1854 for W. Dougherty. His bill of \$35. including hub of Half Dime and 1 figure certified.

Friday, August 19, 1853

Letter to Col. Snowden respect of my office (not delivered until 23rd. or 24th.)

This entry is very important since it documents the discussion regarding the adoption of the S mintmark.

Friday, September 2, 1853

Col. Snowden, director of the Mint, determined after consultation with me to adopt the letter "S" (San Francisco) as the distinguishing mark for the coins of the Branch Mint, California.

Monday, December 12, 1853

Peter F. Cross reported himself for duty at the Mint as my foreman in the Engraver's Department, Salary \$3. per . . .

Thursday, Jan. 3, 1856

Went to Washington

Friday, Jan. 4, 1856 [in Washington]

Called on Senator Broadhead of PA. and with him on the Secretary of the Treasury--at Washington

Thursday, March 20, 1856

Obliged to move from room in the Mint by the builders pulling off the roof!! My new room not ready.

Wed., May 7, 1856

Received from Mint \$164.83

Friday, May 9, 1856

Edwin F. Johnson preparing my screen at the Mint.

Sat., May 31, 1856

Received from the Mint \$170.33

Wed. June 4, 1856

Called on Dr. Barclay by request of the Director of the Mint

This is interesting. I have no idea why Longacre's salary was suspended. Dr. J.T. Barclay had an idea to reduce the amount of wear on the silver and gold coinage by making the rims much higher than the center of the coin. This was also an anti-counterfeiting measure. Barclay was given space at the Mint to experiment with his ideas. The whole project was a failure. (See Judd, pg. 47).

Thursday, June 26, 1856

My salary suspended by order of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Went to Washington at 11 P.M.

Friday, June 27, 1856

In Washington at 6 A.M. Saw Mr. Broadhead, Senator. Went to the Navy Dept.

Saturday, June 28, 1856

...to and from Washington, at Willard's Hotel \$13.50

Left Washington at 4:30 P.M.

Sat., August 30, 1856

Received- Mint balance of salary 501.85

Tuesday, Oct. 20, 1857

A. Paquet reported for duty at the Mint.

Mint of the United States.

Engravers' Department

November 3, 1857

Dr. Barclay called on me and wished me to make a die for him from the Quarter Dollar or Dime, which was to be sunk on the surface in a disk form from the stars to the figure (the plane of which was not to be changed) deepening towards the center of the piece to about one half or one third the thickness of the coin. He seemed to think it a new idea and destined to be an improvement. I told him "it was a form, with which we were more familiar already than we desired to be in our coinage: from the tendency of the dies to rise in the center in the process of hardening which gave us trouble in working without any apparent advantage and that the idea so far from being new was known and wrought upon by the ancient gem engravers, so far as a sunken or hallowed relief to the figure or device was concerned: which in some cases made the parts in relief appear to stand out as if projecting from the bottom of a cup."

I had in my mind for instance the cast in my collection marked 430 (and called in the catalogue the head of Sestus Pompey, the same however which Baron Stock has had engraved in his collection as Capt. Igustum) besides many others: There is in fact no form of more frequent occurrence amongst antique gems. Yet it is justly considered an improper form for coinage, as the coin could never be struck up by any commercial process.

November 17

The die referred to on the preceding page was prepared from that used to coin the Quarter Dollar, but Dr. Barclay did not present a requisition for its delivery; after consulting the director of the Mint, he declined to release me from the legal custody of the die: but consistently with this responsibility left me at liberty to make any arrangement for its use by Dr. B. that I might consider safe to myself, in other words, I might loan it to him. I so informed Dr. B. but he did not see me again until he had obtained an impression from my foreman.

November 20

This impression taken in silver was shown to me and subsequently Dr. B. came to me to get a similar die prepared from the reverse die of the same coin. (the Quarter Dollar), asking how long it would take to prepare it, I told him 4 or 5 days.

He then commenced a digression from the subject referring to opinions respecting his project of a grooved or indented surface to the coinage. His manner was uncourteous and menacing: charging me with the pre...anitation or double-dealing, in stating at his house that there was no difficulty in the way of making the grooved indentation in the coin, (claimed by him as an invention or improvement) and then, stating before the Director of the Mint "that there was an insuperable difficulty." I told him in reply that I never used the word insuperable in that connection.

I am very certain also that I never told him at this house or anywhere else that there was no difficulty in the way of making such dies by our present process: because I knew it would not be done in our usual way if at all: and if I had --- been regardless of truth, I had no inducement of any kind to make a statement at variance with my own belief and with facts that were obvious to any man acquainted with the mode in use for preparing dies for coinage.

He also charged me in the same connection with having been the cause of preventing him from getting into the Mint: this I consider most unfounded and injurious. What ever opinion I entertained of the merit of his (so called) invention, I never used any influence or effort to keep him out to the Mint--the opinions I expressed were only in reply to authoritative interrogatories, and in conformity with my convictions of truth and my obligations to the ...service. It was not even discretionary with me to with-hold the expression of those convictions, when called upon, without disrespect to the authority of my superior officer, and remissness to the trust reposed in me.

November 23

The Reverse die to make coin hollowed out or sunk in toward the center was requested by Dr. Barclay, was commenced by making a hub from the Quarter Dollar reverse die, and is placed in the hands of Mr. Paquet for that purpose.

November 27

The hub described as above was hardened and a die made from it: which was finished and a piece struck from it in my absence by foreman Geo. E. This proceeding was not as I intended but Dr. B. seems to prefer giving directions to my workmen without my intervention.

November 30.

Dr. B. called on me to show the piece that had been struck as before mentioned, remarking that it was not what he desired in respect to depth of curvature in the radius--I told him that the result was owing in all probability to its having been done or attempted to be done in the absence of my own

supervision. That it was my purpose to have had the die finished by a different process which I considered necessary to carry out his intentions, to have the hub annealed and sunk deeper; placing it again in the hands of Mr. Paquet.

Dr. B. now wants the head die of the Dime treated in the same way; starting the curvature from the inside of the beaded border; and worked proportionally still deeper. I of course, told him I would have it done.

Dec. 1

The reverse Quarter Dollar hub as again wrought on by Mr. Paquet was placed in the hands of my foreman for hardening and again making a die from it. The work thus far on these Quarter Dollar dies is estimated at six days by the engraver.

Dec. 30

Since the last date, i.e. during the present month, Dr. Barclay has had several alterations made in the dies that were made to present the devices with a deeply sunk face around these--the Quarter Dollar obverse; he had rounded out, or the convex surface of the die extended to the beaded border, so as to take out the stars (which at first he told me he did not want done) corresponding with the die prepared from the Dime obverse; and he has had both dies made with a high polish on the convex faces--this work is estimated at 3 days additional labour of the engraver.

Memoranda

Inscription of John Bacon's (sculptor) tomb, Whitefields Chapel, Tottenham Court Road, London; "What I was as an artist seemed to me of some importance while I lived; but what I really was as a believer in Jesus Christ is the only thing of importance to me now."

Monday Feb. 13, 1860

Annual Assay at the Mint
Commissioners present; Barnard, Miss.; Pitchaes, Mich.; Porter, Lancaster, Pa.; Bridges, Phila; Hon. J.M. Porter, Easton, Pa.; ...Packer, Ma..h Church, Pa.; and ex officers Hon. J. Cadwallader [?] and Vandyke.

Thursday, March 22, 1860

weight of dies to be melted, 2980 ounces Troy, lbs. 204.34 avoirdupois.

Tuesday- March 27, 1860

Result of the melting of the dies for 1857 reported-- weight 2995.80--increase resulting from absorption of carbon. Annual report of working dies made to the Director of the Mint.

Wed., April 25, 1860 [Washington City]

In company with Andrew and Dr. Blake, called on Gen. Cass, Secretary of State, Hon. H. Cobb, Secretary of the Treasury, and on the President, Mr. Buchanan.

Thursday, April 26, 1860

Washington; Made drawings of the heads of Crawford's statues of America and Freedom.

Friday, April 27, 1860

Called again on the Secretary of State.

Wed. June 13, 1860

Japanese Embassy at the Mint. 1st. Prince (Simme Boojan Nokami) Counsellor, Treasurer, _Governor...

Thursday, June 14, 1860

Japanese again at the Mint, in assaying Department.

Wed. August 29, 1860

Loaned to Dr. H.R. Linderman my book of Napoleon Medals

Sat. Jan. 9, 1864

Counted the working dies for 1863, all right but the reverses of the cent which overrun the record 17.

Thursday, June 16, 1864

At Sanitary Fair, saw President Lincoln in the Art Gallery about 5 P.M.. Saw and conversed with Messrs. Thornley, Lang, Sartain, F. Layden, O. Rogers, S.

Monday June 20, 1864

At Sanitary Fair, with Mr. Keen, morning visit to the Art Gallery.

Thursday, August 18, 1864

Capt. Ahl, commissary of prisoners at Fort Delaware called on me for an introduction to the Treasures of the Mint: for a recognition.

Thursday, November 8, 1864

Geo. Eckfeldt taken ill.

Monday, Nov. 14 1864

W.H. Key-engaged to assist in the Engraving in my Dept. to report on Thursday 14th inst.

Friday, Nov. 25, 1864

Mr. W. H. Key reported at the mint.

Monday, November 28, 1864

Funeral of Geo Eckfeldt- 2 PM Monument Cemetery

Monday, Jan. 8, 1866

The new reverse of the Double Eagle bearing the Motto "In God We Trust" was struck in the coining room at the Mint.

Thursday, May 24, 1866

Death of Lieut. Gen. Scott

Saturday, June 29, 1867

Delivered the dies and puncheons for the coinage of Chile by order of Albert Blast Gana, charge d'affaires of Chile, to J. E. Mackanna of the Chilean delegation, in an...bound box--carefully packed. Directed "Via Panama,... ministers, ...Chile, Santiago."

Friday, Sept. 27, 1867

Received from the Mint 725.00

Thursday, March 7, 1867

James M. (my son) returned from Washington with a draft for \$2000, received from the charge d'affaires of Chile, Mr. A. Blast Gana, for engraving the dies and puncheons for the "Un Peso" and "Un Decimo" according to contract.

Tuesday, March 19, 1867

when about leaving the Mint at one o'clock, I was stopped by a clerk in the coiners' dept. asking for the keys of the case containing the National medal dies as they wished to remove the case. I declined complying with his request for the present.

In the afternoon, I sent for Mr. Dubois to see me at my house to consult with him on the matter. He said I was right in not giving up the keys. Also averted to the unpleasant rumours about the improper issue from the Mint of impressions of the coin in copper.

Wednesday, March 20, 1867

I saw Mr. McKibben, the Director pro-tem of the Mint, in relation to the Medal dies case: he had given no orders for its removal and directed that it should remain where it is for the present.

Monday, March 25, 1867

the weather being favourable, I was at the Mint: the Director pro tem, Mr. McKibben, called in at my room to say that the coining dept. was hindered for the want of dies; This to me was unpleasant and unexpected as I had made it a point to be always ready in my dept. for any such demand. On after he left, I ascertained that the coining dept. during the week just ended had 100 working dies, which is five times the average supply during any time for the last 20 years. The coining dept. is at fault in this matter.

Tuesday, March 30, 1867

Again at the Mint. Ascertained from my foreman, that he struck the copper impressions of sets of the coinage at the instance and requirement of Mr. Snowden, the newly appointed coiner, in my absence and without my knowledge or consent.



How many are there anyway?

By Jerry Wysong

I hope each of you has a relaxing and pleasant Summer.

My plans are to take my 12 year old grandson and go fishing for a week in

Michigan and then head West for about three weeks or so. We have no fixed itinerary and no real schedule; just kind of go when and where the spirit moves us. We'll do a little tent camping and a little modern camping (motel type) to clean up and do laundry. I hope it all goes as well as I want it to.

The coin market continues to be very active.

Finding choice, properly graded collector coins continues to be the biggest problem. Very little seems to be making its way to coin shops and I hear this everywhere it seems. When a new deal does appear; its like a feeding frenzy occurs; with a number of people jockeying for position to try and buy the choice material.

The new **Finds** reported to me over the past few months has been great. The reported Finds include some major MS-65 pieces. As always; my sincere thanks to all of you who make this article possible by contributing to the Census. It's you who take the time to share, who make it all possible. My mailing address is: P.O. Box 292561 Dayton, Ohio 45429 For those of you with Internet access, my e-mail address is: jiwysong@erinet.com If you use e-mail; please include your name so I can give you credit for your find.

Since I will be gone until approximately July 12; Please report your latest finds after that date; particularly e-mails since they could automatically be deleted.

The *finds* reported to me for the period of February 25, 2001 through May 15, 2001 are listed below:

Please submit NEW finds to:

**Jerry Wysong
P.O. Box 292561
Dayton, Ohio 45429
jiwysong@erinet.com**

DOUBLE DIES

1. 1887 S-1; Good; Quent Hansen
2. 1909 S-1; ANACS MS-62; Quent Hansen
3. 1873 S-1; VF-30, Dennis Montini
4. 1887 S-1; VF; Bill Van Note
5. 1887 S-1; Good; Bill Van Note
6. 1870 S-3; AU; Steve Shaw
7. 1873 S-1; Good; Dave Finkelstein

MISPLACED DATES

1. 1883 S-1; Very Good; Quent Hansen
2. 1883 S-1; Very Good; Quent Hansen
3. 1897 S-1; Very Good; Quent Hansen
4. 1884 S-1; ANACS VF-20; Don Hansen
5. 1884 S-1; ANACS VF-30; Don Hansen
6. 1897 S-1; ANACS G-4; Don Hansen
7. 1897 S-1; ANACS VG-8; Don Hansen
8. 1888/7 S-2; ANACS VF-35; Don Hansen
9. 1888 S-8; ANACS VF-20; Don Hansen
10. 1897 S-1; PCGS MS-63 Red; Al Williams
11. 1873 Op3 S-6; PCGS MS-65 Brn; Tim Cartwright
12. 1897 S-1; VG-10; Dave Finkelstein
13. 1883 S-1; PCGS MS-65 Red; Dave Finkelstein

REPUNCHED DATES

1. 1867/67 S-1; Good; Quent Hansen
2. 1894/94 S-1; Good; Quent Hansen
3. 1894/94 S-1; VG; Quent Hansen
4. 1858/7 S-7; ANACS Fine-12; Quent Hansen
5. 1866/1 S-3; ANACS VF-20; Don Hansen
6. 1867/67 S-1; ANACS VG-8; Don Hansen
7. 1869 S-1; PCGS MS-66RB; Tim Cartwright
8. 1859 S-1; Extra Fine; Dave Finkelstein

CLASHED DIES

1. 1857 S-7; ANACS Fine-15; Quent Hansen
2. 1857 S-7; ANACS VF-30; Quent Hansen
3. 1857 S-8; AU-55; Steve Shaw
4. 1857 S-7; VG-10; Dave Finkelstein
5. 1857 S-7; Fine; Dave Finkelstein
6. 1857 S-8; Very Fine; Dave Finkelstein
7. 1857 S-9; Very Fine; Dave Finkelstein
8. 1857 S-9; Very Fine; Dave Finkelstein

DOUBLED DIE TABLE												
VARIETY		G/VGF	VF	EF	AU	60/62/63	64	65	66	TOTAL		
1864 1-O-V	S-4	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	0	6
1865-1-R-IV	S-2	5	1	4	3	3	3	2	1	0	0	22
1866 1-O-V	S-1	2	5	10	7	5	3	2	3	1	1	39
1868 1-O-III	S-1	0	1	2	7	5	3	4	5	1	1	29
1870 1-O-IV(3)	S-1	0	0	2	13	7	7	4	7	1	0	41
1870 2-O-IV	S-3	0	0	0	1	4	0	1	1	0	0	7
1870 3-O-IV	S-5	4	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	6
1873 1-O-III	S-1	38	17	19	16	20	7	4	3	2	0	126
1873 2-O-III	S-2	0	1	7	9	11	8	7	4	3	0	50
1874 1-O-V	S-1	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	3	0	0	7
1880 1-O-IV	S-1	1	1	2	2	4	2	4	2	2	0	20
1887 1-O-V	S-1	36	13	9	7	6	0	2	1	0	0	74
1889 1-R-III	S-1	3	1	4	6	7	2	2	3	1	0	29
1890 1-O-II(3)	S-1	1	3	1	3	7	2	2	2	2	0	23
1891 1-O-IV	S-1	10	2	4	4	7	3	1	3	1	0	34
1909 1-O-III	S-1	0	1	2	6	8	7	8	3	2	45	

MISPLACED DIGIT TABLE											
VARIETY		G/VGF		VF	EF	AU	60/62 63	64	65	66	TOTAL
1870 0-in-Dent.	S-5	8	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	11
1870 FND-004	S-8	2	0	2	1	0	1	2	0	0	8
1873 op 3	S-6	0	1	0	2	3	0	0	1	2	9
1883 1-in - Neck	S-1	12	3	3	2	3	1	1	3	2	32
1884 4 -in - Dent	S-1	2	4	4	5	4	1	0	2	1	23
1888/7	S-2	5	2	4	1	7	2	1	1	0	23
1888 8-in-Dent.	S-8	3	0	5	4	1	0	1	0	0	14
1891 FND-003	S-7	1	0	3	1	2	0	1	0	0	8
1894 94-in-Dent.	S-2	10	2	1	3	5	1	0	3	0	27
1897 1-in-Neck	S-1	52	19	10	16	8	2	5	2	0	114
1902 0-in-Dent.	S-1	8	3	1	3	1	1	2	0	1	20

REPUNCHED DATE TABLE											
VARIETY		G/VGF	VF	EF	AU	60/62 63	64	65	66	TOTAL	
1857/57	S-11	0	0	2	3	1	3	2	0	2	13
1858/7 EDS	S-1	3	2	12	10	15	4	3	5	0	54
1858/7 Type 2	S-7	0	2	3	4	0	1	1	1	0	12
1859/9	S-1	6	3	4	7	7	1	0	1	1	30
1865/4 Fancy	S-1	3	0	1	2	5	0	1	2	1	15
1865/4 Plain	S-1	0	1	2	1	1	1	5	2	0	14
1866/1	S-3	6	2	4	2	2	3	2	2	1	24
1867/67	S-1	42	10	16	12	4	7	6	15	5	116
1869/18	S-1	4	1	1	3	0	0	0	1	1	11
1872/182	S-1	4	2	3	2	1	2	1	4	1	20
1873 Op.3	S-1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
1888/7 die #1	S-1	8	1	5	1	2	4	2	1	1	23
1891/1891	S-3	15	3	8	6	11	2	6	7	1	59
1894/94	S-1	98	15	16	10	4	5	9	9	4	172
1895/895	S-1	11	1	2	4	3	1	1	0	1	24

CLASHED DIE TABLE											
VARIETY		G/VGF	VF	EF	AU	60/62 63	64	65	66	TOTAL	
1857 \$20 Obv.	S-7	16	5	9	4	1	0	0	0	0	35
1857 25c Rev.	S-8	3	5	8	7	6	4	1	1	0	35
1857 50c Obv.	S-9	23	15	19	7	3	1	2	4	2	77

An Analysis of the 1867 over 67.

By Larry Steve LM-2

The 1867 over 67 Indian cent is one of the more popular repunched dates within the series. Since it was first reported in 1959 by Q. David Bowers (February-March issue of the *Empire Topics*), much has been written about this variety. Despite the volume of information now available, it continues to perplex even some of the more advanced collectors and researchers.

The underlying 7 was initially thought to be of a smaller type. This theory remains plausible, but as our understanding expands, support for this view is shifting to alternate theories. One alternate theory believes that the 7 *appears* smaller due to some filling in of the cavity of the 7 from a subsequent punching of the date. I offered a third theory, first presented in Q. David Bowers' book entitled *A Buyer's and Enthusiast's Guide to Flying Eagle and Indian Cents* published in 1996. This article will provide a more thorough analysis.

More recently, additional comments were made by Rick Snow about this variety in "The Benson Collection" auction catalog of Ira and Larry Goldberg Coins & Collectibles, Inc., dated February 16, 18, 19, 20, 2001. Following is an excerpt from that catalog (Lot No. 1101, pg. 152):

"Curiously, this variety is always seen with a *late die state* (emphasis added) obverse, with numerous clash marks and roughness in the fields. It is probably that the repunching on the date was done after the die was used for an extended period. The problem with this scenario is that the die would have been too hard to accept the new repunching. However, the die could have been softened, accounting for the buckling and surface roughness. Later die states of this variety actually show a smoother field due to additional repunching. A very interesting variety."

I would tend to disagree with some of the comments, and agree with others. My reasons are as follows:

A proper analysis of die varieties is best achieved by the examination of a well struck, very early die state (VEDS) specimen coin, preferably in Mint State when available. Such coins struck from freshly prepared dies would show in crisp, sharp details all the characteristics of the die. The first question would be, how to determine whether a coin is a VEDS specimen?

A preliminary determination would focus upon an examination of the fields on a coin. One would expect to find smooth fields, devoid of flowlines, clash marks, die cracks, and other evidence of die erosion or die wear. A microscopic examination would look for the appearance of lapping lines or die polish lines, which would appear as small raised ridges that criss-cross across the surface of the coin. However, the appearance of these die lines offers no assurance that the coin was struck from an VEDS die, as the die could have been removed from service and relapped or repolished to remove any flowlines or other blemishes



1867/67 S-1

Fly-In Club Image Library.

The examination of many 1867 over 67 Indian cents *does* reveal numerous clash marks and roughness to the fields on the obverse. It would be reasonable to conclude, based upon this preliminary examination, that the coin was struck from a late die state obverse die. Herein lies the problem. The roughness of the fields appears uniformly "pebbly" in nature and is uncharacteristic of a late die state. It was assumed that this roughness was caused by die wear (i.e. late die state). Typically, rough fields of a late die state coin would appear more like "choppy waves on the surface of the ocean" that radiate outward from the center of the coin toward its rim. Additionally, there would be some "bleeding" of the edges of the devices into the fields (often seen as a sloping descent from the top surface of the feathers down into the fields). This is not evidenced on very early die state pieces, as the feathers and other devices remained more perpendicular to the fields.

I can offer alternate explanations to account for the roughness of the fields. First with regard to the clash marks, these can, and have, occurred with fresh dies and are not indicative of die state. They simply could have occurred during the die set-up. There *are* multiple clash marks, and one simple explanation might be that the roughness is attributed to opposing fields coming in contact with one another, possibly with some grit between them. A second explanation might be that the field surface of the hub was rough and thus transferred to the die. As an analogy, like painting the surface of a wall with a sponge. A third explanation might be that the die was improperly annealed when hubbed, creating a sort of a "tackiness" to its surface. Continuing with the analogy, like placing your hand on a freshly painted wall, not yet fully dry, and then pulling it away. Of course, all of this is speculative and inconclusive at best; yet offers a more plausible explanation. It is also indeterminate as to the die state.

In order to determine die state we need a further examination. Before we proceed, we first need to address an occurrence with late die state pieces. The quote above stated, "Later die states ... actually show a smoother field ...", with which I agree, to a point. In particular, those small raised ridges from lapping lines and die polish lines (as well as clash marks) would be "hammered out" as the die continues to strike planchet after planchet. They simply disappear, and this is an important aspect to bear in mind as we continue.

Another aspect of some very early die state coins are lathe lines. These appear as small raised ridges that run in concentric circles from the center of the coin outward to its rim. Again referencing Dave Bowers' book, a superb illustration can be found on page 65. While it is not the purpose of this article to address how they occur (which I may present in another issue), it is important to recognize their characteristics. These, too, would disappear on later die states, as with the other small raised ridges. Whereas lapping lines or polish lines could be applied to the surface of a die at any point in time during its usage, lathe lines can not and can ONLY appear on early die state specimens.

The following two photos of this variety from a coin in my collection.



Fig. a. Lathe lines on neck

The first photo shows a number of lathe lines on the neck of the Indian. There is a rather prominent one at the bottom of the photo which runs from the hair behind the ribbon, through the bottom of the fourth diamond, then back into the bust through the beads and neck. Another prominent one is at the top of the photo from the hair through the neck. I should mention that near the center of the photo is a short, thick lathe line extending toward the left from the ribbon's edge.



Fig b. Lathe lines in headdress.

The second photo shows a nice pair of lathe lines running through the feathers. Is anyone out there yet thinking ahead about the 1865 "skull cap" variety? I'll cover this variety in greater detail when I write about lathe lines in depth.

Clearly this coin is a very early die state specimen. Yet, this coin also displays a roughness to its fields with numerous clash marks (not illustrated). Thus, I can only conclude that the dies clashed numerous times during die set-up, or shortly after being placed into use. And, that the roughness to its fields was either present at the time the die was first prepared, or was caused by the dies clashing together.

The 1867 S-1 variety is often referred to as the "1867 over 67". Most individuals would describe this variety as displaying repunching to the north. However, I find this conventional description actually hampers an analysis of that which had occurred when the date was punched into the die. The fact is, the underlying date (the weaker and partially visible one) was punched into the die *first*; and the final (full) date was punched into the die *second*. This makes the final date the repunched date; and it is repunched to the *south*!

The issue of which date was punched into the die first is a most important aspect to consider. To begin with, a four digit date punch was certainly used for this variety, as will be shown further in this article. I can't imagine why a two digit punch (i.e. just a "67") would have been used, yet the reference to the underlying date as being "repunched to the north" suggests this scenario, and that it was punched second. This fundamental difference in perception of which date is the repunched date, strongly suggests that nearly all repunched dates should show evidence of all four digits from the underlying date. There are, however, some repunched date varieties on which a single punch may have been used to strengthen an individual digit, and that it was punched second.

Other important questions, such as "Were there single-digit punches mated with three-digit punches to form a date punch?", become cloudy under the conventional way of thinking about repunched dates. Questions about misplaced dates, or partial misplaced dates, are also obscured. So, it is all too important to begin with a basic foundation upon which to build an understanding.

All repunched dates are not alike! Many are different from one another, and another element in understanding them is to use a more descriptive method. Collectors of doubled dies are well aware of different classes of doubled dies, and this classification system lends itself quite nicely to repunched dates. It is a system that I had modified and adopted for my research of repunched dates many years ago. Briefly, I would describe the 1867 S-1 variety as being a Class V repunched date (pivoted clockwise, with the pivot point on the 1). Additionally, I would describe the 1859 S-1 variety as Class IV (offset to the northeast relative to the coin). Note that the actual punching of the date into the die requires a different perspective, as will be shown later in this article.”

With these tools in hand, we can set about examining this variety in greater detail. As with lathe lines and other die lines, aspects of a repunched date can also be hammered out. Most specimens of this variety will only show the 6 and 7 of the underlying date. Thus, it is understandable that this date has been referred to (in shorthand notation) as 1867/67. Again, however, this only reinforces the mis-perception. Only a very early die state specimen will show all the details and all four underlying digits.

The four close-up photos below are of each digit in the date.

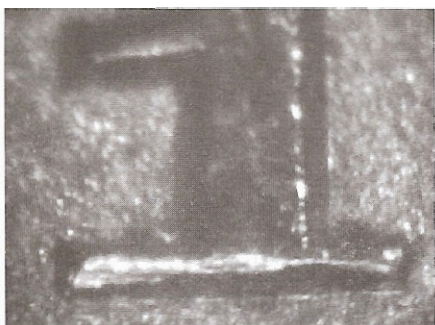


Fig c. Base of 1.
Larry Steve Collection



Fig d. Top of 8.
Larry Steve Collection



Fig. e. Top of 6.
Larry Steve Collection



Fig f. Top of 7.
Larry Steve Collection

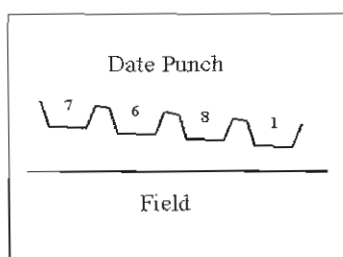
Some interesting aspects are revealed. The first photo of the 1 clearly shows a split base along the bottom edge from the center to the left end. More important, however, is that the depth of the underlying 1 is about 3/4th that of the final 1. The second photo of the 8 displays the tiny “horns” from the top of the underlying digit at about 1/2 the depth of the final digit. The next two photos show the tops of the 6 and 7 respectively, with the underlying 7 being much more shallow

than the other three underlying digits. Based upon these observations it can be conclusively said that a four digit punch was first used, and that the repunched date is an 1867 over 1867.

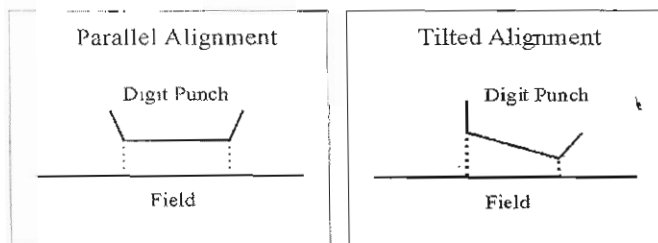
With the entire date punch pivoted toward the bust, the bottom tip of the 7 from the first punching would appear much further from the denticles than that of the base of the 1.

It is easy to imagine that upon seeing this, along with the shallow impression of the 7, the die sinker may have decided to strengthen the digits with a repunching of the date. Additionally, he may have also decided to bring the 7 down a bit so that the tip was closer to the denticles. Thus, he may have seated the 1 on the date punch in the first impression, and slightly pivoted the punch in a clockwise motion. A similar theory could be presented for the 1859 S1 - that it was too low and too far to the left, and that an offset repunching of the date ensued shifted toward the northeast. Note, as the date is punched into the die a second time for this variety, the date punch would actually be shifted toward the northwest relative to the die. I'll cover this aspect in greater detail in a later article.

The varying depths of the underlying digits further suggests that the date punch was slightly tilted when the date was first punched into the die. This is illustrated below:

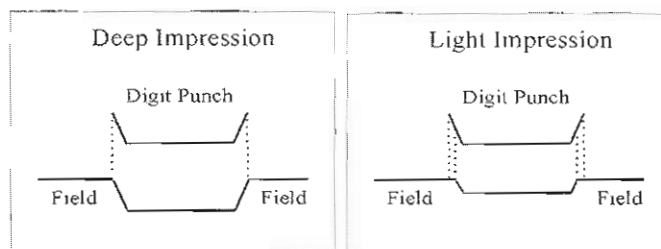


If the date punch was tilted when first used, as illustrated above with the 7 digit being furthest from the die, then the depth of the 7 would not be as great as the other digits. Additionally, and this is the crucial argument, the width of the 7 would not be as great as that of a 7 had the date punch been parallel to the surface of the field. This concept was first presented in an earlier article of mine in which I examined the 1873 Open 3 MPD S6, and concluded that the 3 in the bust was that of a Closed 3! This anomaly can be geometrically shown with comparative illustrations as presented below.



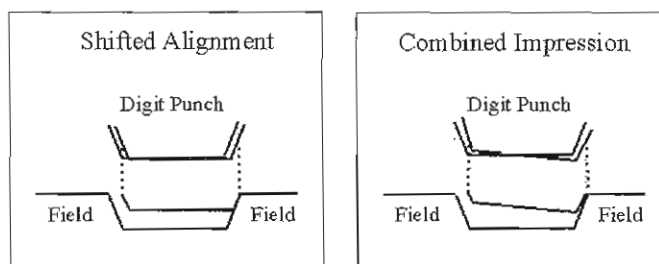
The above illustration merely shows that the width of a digit becomes narrower by tilting the punch. When we take into account that there is a slight taper to the sides of the digit on the punch, the deeper the image is impressed into the die, the wider the image. Thus, even a shallow punching of a date with a parallel alignment would result in a narrower image. (NOTE: Conversely, there is a particular die for an

1873 Open 3 on which the date was more deeply impressed. This resulted in wider digits, and in particular, the knobs of the 3 became fatter and the gap between them narrower. Coins struck from this particular die have been erroneously identified as *Closed 3* varieties.)



The graphic illustration above shows the difference in the width of a digit between a deep impression and a light impression.

Finally, the above illustrations show a narrowing of the digit on both sides. However, with the date punch aligned with the left side of the 1 from the first impression, the narrowing affect would simply be shifted to the far right side of the date. The combined effect of all these factors would be most apparent on the upper right serif of the 7. All of which is graphically illustrated below.



The combined impression, as graphically illustrated above, provides a visual image as to why the 7 in the underlying date appears to be a "small 7".

Returning to our understanding of doubled dies for a moment - when a die is hubbed a second time, some filling in of the cavities from the first impression does occur. A "pinching" of the impressions, particularly of the letters in the legend on the obverse, would make them appear smaller than the final impression. ("Pinching" is a term that I credit to Marvin Erickson.) This is most evident on the 1857 S3 doubled die variety. Insofar as the "small 7" for this variety, I believe that it was caused primarily by a tilted date punch that was lightly punched for the first impression, and secondarily by some possible filling in of the cavity from the second impression.

I hope that this article has provided some insights.

Rick Snow
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A Date by Date Discussion of High Grade, Mint State Indian Cents

By Vernon Sebby, Fly-In #474

This is second in a series of discussions by date. Comments about availability relate to what I collect, light red brown Indians. Future articles will give similar discussion to the remaining dates.

To give a frame of reference for my opinions on eye appeal and strike characteristics, eye appeal relates to my definition of a very attractive coin, one with even, light red brown coloration, a good strike, substantial mint luster, and no spots with very few minute specks. The coin must give a good impression, when first observed with the unaided eye. Strike characteristics detail specifics about the particular date, with emphasis on the prime focal areas (obverse: feather tips, date & legend, and ribbon/diamonds/hair curl, reverse: shield, wreath, and "ONE CENT").

1873:

Eye Appeal – Above average.

Strike Characteristics – Can come well struck, but often has a weak shield on the reverse.

Comments – This date is known for the doubled die and closed three varieties. It is a tough date to find in high grade in the "common", open three style as well.



Vernon Sebby Collection



Vernon Sebby Collection

1874:

Eye Appeal – Above average.

Strike Characteristics – Can be found well struck.

Comments – This date is probably as easy to find in high grade as any in the 1870's. I've noticed that some 1874's have raised "dots" on them, the result of either intentional or unintentional die damage. Note the "dots" below the ear in this example.

1875:

Eye Appeal - Above average.

Strike Characteristics - Often comes well struck.

Comments - This date is similar in availability to the 1874, but for some reason priced a little higher.

1876:

Eye Appeal - Average at best, often without much luster.

Strike Characteristics - Often found well struck.

Comments - The 1876 is underrated in MS-65 or better. I've yet to find that special coin, with most I've seen in MS-65 holders having problems, or being over-graded. There are many around that will make MS-64, but very few that have the appeal to make MS-65.

1877:

Eye Appeal - Below average to average.

Strike Characteristics - Often weakly struck, with poor definition of the feathers, and weaknesses in a variety of places on the obverse.

Comments - The 1877 is the Indian that is found over-graded the most. Show me a slabbed MS-65 and I'll show you why it really is an MS-64 at best. The grading services seem to over-grade the key dates of most series, and the 1877 is no exception. Couple that with the 1877's higher price, which makes it cost effective for dealers to submit the same coin over and over, and it is clear why virtually all slabbed 1877's, currently on the market are over-graded. Last year I saw a nice, appealing 1877, accurately graded as MS-64. Unfortunately, it did not have an acceptable strike. I'll wager that today it is an MS-65 holder.

1878:

Eye Appeal - Above average.

Strike Characteristics - Often comes well struck, although the shield on the reverse can be weak.

Comments - The 1878 used to be equated with the 1876 for rarity in high grade. This is definitely not the case. Nice 1878's can be found.

1879:

Eye Appeal - Above average.

Strike Characteristics - Are often found well struck.

Comments - This is another under-rated date. One can find many MS-64's, but few that are legitimate MS-65's. Since 1879's are priced like the "common" dates in the 1880's, I'd rate it as under-priced.

1880:

Eye Appeal - Above average.

Strike Characteristics - Are often found well struck.

Comments - The 1880 is the first of four dates that I'd say are as plentiful in legitimate, eye appealing MS-65 red brown, as any Indian cent. This is not to imply that they are common or easily found, but at least there are some. This also gives a hint as about my opinion of the "common" dates, minted in the twentieth century.

1881:

Eye Appeal - Above average.

Strike Characteristics - Are often found well struck.

Comments - The highest graded Indian in my collection happens to be an 1881. It has radiant, cart-wheel luster, a full strike, and no marks. I consider it better than an MS-66. Another interesting note about this coin is that my friend Keith Meyer found it in a dealer's case, languishing in a "professionally" slabbed MS-64 holder. This is just another example (albeit, not the typical example), of how poorly the certification services grade Indian cents.

1882:

Eye Appeal - Above average.

Strike Characteristics - Can be found well struck.

Comments - The first MS-65 Indian of my collection was an 1882. I've yet to find one I like better, even though this is not a particularly difficult date.

I welcome comments and opinions at P.O. Box 162, LaFox, Illinois, 60147, or E-mail at melva6906@prairienet.com.

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1871 Shallow N Dies - An Update

By Tim Cartwright

The flat N reverse was incorporated into the Indian Cent design in 1860 but the alloy was hard and contributed to the loss of detail on the obverse. In 1861, the mint tried to address this problem by making the center of the reverse die (corresponding to the bottom of the N in ONE) shallower. This is the beginning of the “shallow N” reverse – a design that continued through the remainder of the copper-nickel series and into the bronze series that began in 1864. After Longacre’s death on January 1, 1869, the mint decided to strengthen the reverse and produced the “bold N” design. The decision to enhance the reverse design must have been abrupt and made late in the year because of the 20 or so shallow N reverse dies that were rehubbed with the bold N reverse. These are known as the Type II double dies of 1870. No doubt the mint intended to rehub all shallow N reverses in

1869 and 1870, but, as it turns out, several shallow N reverse dies were hiding in the dark recesses of the mint – only to be used in subsequent years.

Until the 1990’s, the only other known use of a shallow N die was the production of 1871 proof strikes and 1877 business strikes. It wasn’t until August 1999 that the first 1871 business strike with a shallow N reverse was attributed. In the two years since its discovery, very few additional examples of the shallow N have surfaced. Two business strike shallow N reverses have been identified, the Snow-4 and Snow-5. A theory has also emerged that the final assignment of the “reverse of 1868” die (used in proof production) was in making business strikes. Here is a summary of the 1871 shallow N finds so far:

The 1871 Snow-4

The first shallow N specimen to be recognized was the Snow-4. It was characterized by numerous die cracks along with very heavy polishing on the reverse. The numerous die cracks and scarce population mean that the Snow-4 dies were very likely to be short-lived. Only three specimens of this variety are currently known – all are in an early-to-mid die state showing the same degree of failure. Borrowing from my mathematical analysis in a previous issue of the *Ledger*, the probable mintage for catastrophically failed dies was 30,000 or less. The short-lived die coupled with the few known pieces suggests that this variety is very rare – maybe R6 or R7.

Diagnostics:

Obverse – The first 1 in the date is lined up on the LH of the 7th denticle. There is a die crack from the rim at 2:00 through the tops of MER and back to the rim at 4:00. A die crack goes from the rim at 10:00 down to the top of the D. There is also slight repunching of the 7 to the east and the last 1 to the south under the flag.

Reverse – There is a die crack from the rim at 11:30 through the top of the shield and back to the rim at 1:00. There is a die crack from the rim at 4:00 through the wreath, arrows, stem and back to the rim at 6:00. Another die crack extends from the rim at 6:00 to the ribbon and through the bottom two olive leaves to the rim at 7:30. A final die crack goes from the rim at 10:30 to the wreath at 10:00. Heavy polishing has created raised areas that connect the wreath to the C and T in CENT, as well as, the wreath to the Shield.

Condition Census: 58, 40, 8



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Figure 1. The 1871 Snow-4.



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Figure 2. The 1871 Snow-5.

The 1871 Snow-5

The Snow-5 variety was discovered in December 1999 and has the added bonus of a misplaced digit below the left base of the second one. However, the misplaced digit may not be visible in late die states or grades below XF. This variety appears to be much more common than the Snow-4. In fact, with 9 examples known, its rarity is fast approaching that of several other die pairs of the date. The variety has been seen in three die stages: 1) no clashing, 2) clashed once, and 3) and doubled clashing. Each stage shows progressively more polishing to the point where the ribbons at the headband are obliterated and elements on the reverse joined by raised areas.

Diagnostics:

Obverse - The top of a 1 digit is protruding from the denticles into the field below the left edge of the second 1. Later die stages show heavy doubled clashing above the 2nd and 3rd feathers through OF and between the last feathers and hair curl. Heavy polishing has obliterated ribbon detail where the ribbon connects to the headband and around the L initial. The MPD is very weak on late die states and not visible below XF.

Reverse - There is a circular die crack from the tip of the middle arrowhead around the outer part of the wreath to 2:00. Later die stages show heavy die lines across the entire reverse. The heaviest extend from the tips of the two olive leaves connecting them to the rim at 7:30 and 8:00 respectively.

Condition Census: 65BN, 64RB, 64BN, 63RD, 63RB, 62BN, 45, 20, 8, 4



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Figure 3. Detail of the 1871 reverse of 1868

Reverse of 1868

An interesting finding has emerged as a result of the research of 1871 die pairs. It involves the use of the reverse die of 1868 for business strike production after proof production. This die was well traveled; It was used for several proof runs including the 1868, 1870, 1864L, 1871 and others. There have been no coins, after 1871 proof production, attributed with this particular reverse. Two particular 1871's have surfaced with "business strike" characteristics. ANACS has graded one of these coins as MS61BN and NGC graded the other as AU58. Both coins were definitely struck with the proof dies but look very much like business strikes. More specimens are needed to verify this theory.

Diagnostics:

Obverse – Both coins show muted luster and mirrors. The denticles are rounded and shallow. There is a die line from the 4th pearl into the neck but it is not as sharp as in early die states. The date is lined up with the LE of the 7th denticle.

Reverse – There are polishing lines that connect the olive leaves to the denticles but they are extremely small and rounded and do not show the detail that EDS proof specimens show. There is a die lump in the middle of the C and between the C and the wreath. The denticles are rounded.

Condition Census: 61BN, 58

Pricing

Since the shallow N is a newly discovered variety, the pricing structure has not been fully developed. Most have been cherry-picked as non-varieties but some have been recognized for the variety. The pricing history of the variety is summarized below.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Factor</u>
MS63RB	Heritage Auction	Aug 2000	\$1370	2.5 X
AU58	eBay Auction	June 2000	\$ 575	1.5 X

Closing Discussion

This article is excerpted from a study of all 1871 die pairs that has been ongoing for two years. To date, about 2,000 cents in all grades have been studied and 22 different die pairs have been identified. Three die pairs are proof and 19 are business strike. Out of the 19, two shallow N dies have been attributed. Both reverses are rare — the Snow-4 has only three known specimens with the highest grade being AU58. The Snow-5 currently has nine known specimens with the highest

grade being MS65BN. There is also a good possibility that the reverse of 1868 proof die was used for business strikes as well. Cherry-picking this variety can still be done because it is unknown and the characteristics for each of the reverses can be easily discerned from an image on the Internet or auction catalogues. However, as awareness of the variety grows, the availability will dwindle and prices will rise from the current 2.5X premium.

Something New
By Rick Snow LM-1

S5 1 in denticles, Shallow N Reverse

Obv. 8: (RH) The top of a 1 digit is visible sticking into the field below the left edge of the last 1 in the date. Horizontal die line below the right edge of the last 1.

Rev T1-B: Shallow N reverse. Olive leaf and shield points away from denticles. Die striations from 10:00 to 4:00 most evident as numerous die lines extending from the olive leaves. Areas between wreath and shield are flat. Die crack from the rim at 3:30 to the wreath, continuing up the outer leaves of the wreath to 2:00.

Attributed to: Tim Cartwright



Fly-In Club Image library.

S14 1875, 1875/1875 (s).

Obv. 16: (RH) Heavy repunching is visible under all the digits in the date. Broken D hub. Outlines on the lower half of the legend and portrait.

Rev. T3-Q: Olive leaf and shield points well away from the denticles. Die crack from the rim at 7:30 along the outside of the wreath to 9:00.

Attributed to: Marc Sefafine



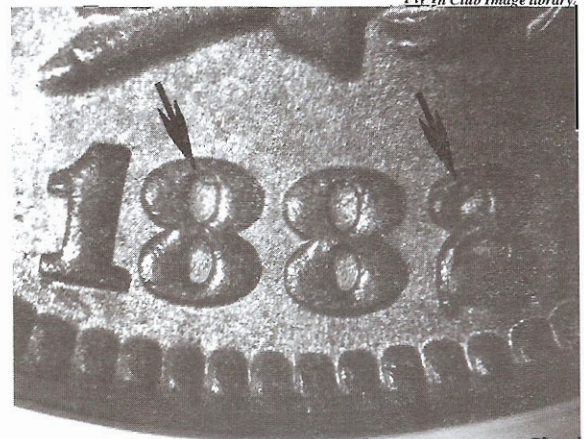
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S8 1882, 8/8 (n), 2/2 (n).

Obv. 10: (RE) The base of an 8 and 2 digits is visible in the top loops of the first 8 and 2. Light die crack from the rim at 8:30 to the tops of ED S in UNITED STATES.

Rev. I: Shield point connected to denticles, olive leaf away from denticles.

Attributed to: Darrell Wolfe



Fly-In Club Image library.

S4 1884, digits in hair curl.

Obv. 7: (RH) Two digits, probably 8's are visible in the junction of the ribbon end and the lower hair curl. Numerous die lines between the ribbon and neck. Outlines on all letters.

Rev. H: Shield points and olive leaf connected to the denticles.

Attributed to: Marc Serafine



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S8 1886 T1, Large 6/ Small 6.

Obv. 11 (RH) A large 6 is repunched over a small 6. The larger digit is visible extending from the top, right and base of the smaller 6. The date is punched very far to the left, the 1 being to the left of the bust point. Heavy outlines on all the letters.

Rev. W: Shield points and olive wreath connected to the denticles.

Attributed to: Darrell Wolfe



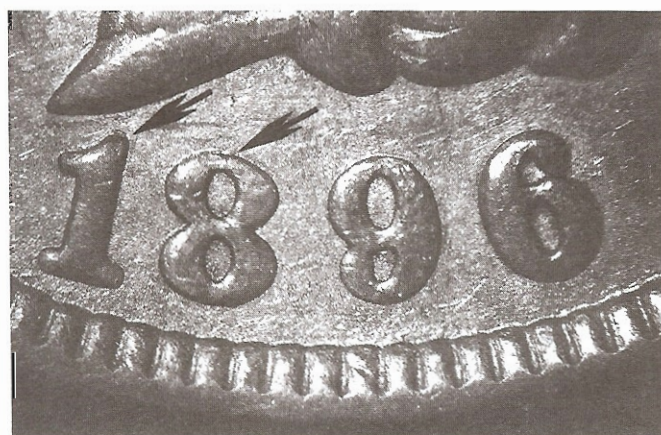
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S30 1895, 8/8 (se), 5/5 (se).

Obv. 34: (LH) Very wide repunching. The top left edge of an 8 is visible in the lower loop of the 8. The top left corner of the 5 is visible in the lower loop of the 5. A vertical die line is visible to the right of the date.

Rev. AH: Shield points connected to the denticles. Olive leaf away from denticles.

Attributed to: Darrell Wolfe



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S16 1896, 18 (n).

Obv. 20: (LH) Moderate repunching visible above the flag of the 1. Microscopic repunching visible above the top of the 8.

Rev. T: Olive leaf away from the denticles. Shield points connected to the denticles.

Attributed to: Darrell Wolfe



Fly-In Club Image library.

PR5 1899, 18/18 (s).

Obv. 18: (RH) Moderate repunching visible mostly below the flag of the 1 and less so in the upper loop of the 8. Numerous die lines below jawline on neck. Die line below B in LIBERTY.

Rev. S: Olive leaf connected to denticles. Shield points away.

Attributed to: Darrell Wolfe

Same dies as S16.



Fly-In Club Image library.

S24 1908, 1/1 (s).

Obv. 26: (C) Moderate repunching visible under the serif of the 1. Die rust creates roughness in the area between the lower ribbon and the hair curl.

Rev. Z: Olive leaf away from the denticles. Left shield point just away from the denticles. Die rust creates roughness in this area. Right shield point connected to the denticles.

Attributed to: Darrell Wolfe



Fly-In Club Image library.

S25 1908, 1/1 (s), 8/8 (s).

Obv. 27: (B) Minor repunching visible at the base of the 1 and 8.

Rev. AA: Olive leaf away from the denticles. Shield points connected to the denticles.

Attributed to: Robert Bender



Fly-In Club Image library.

S26 1908, 8/8 (n).

Obv. 28: (B) Minor repunching visible at the top of the 8. Die lines in the denticles below the 0 and 8.

Rev. AB: Olive leaf away from the denticles. Left shield point just away from the denticles. Right shield point connected to the denticles. Die crack from the rim at 7:00 into the wreath terminating at the center of the knot. Die crack from the rim at 10:00 into the wreath terminating in the wreath at 9:00. Die crack from the rim at 3:30 through the wreath to the center of the T in CENT.

Attributed to: Ward Miller



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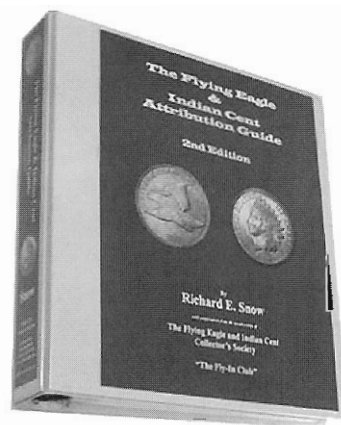
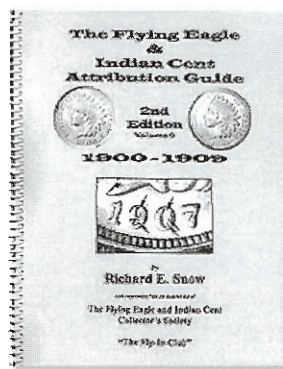
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